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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
Health of the West Kesteven
Rural District

BY THE
Medical Officer of Health

E. W. SHEARER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

ON BEHALF OF

R. M. ROSS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

TO WHICH IS APPENDED THE
REPORT OF THE
Chief Sanitary Inspector

J. DEAN, F.F.S.(Eng.), Cert. R.S.I.

1954

Palmers Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd., Swinegate, Grantham

West Kesteven Rural District Council

Reconstituted under the Parts of Kesteven (Alteration of Districts and Parishes) Order, 1930.

List of Parishes

Allington	Hougham
Ancaster	Hough-on-the-Hill
Barkston	Ingoldsby
Barrowby	Lenton, Keisby and Osgodby
Belton and Manthorpe	Little Ponton and Stroxton
Bitchfield and Bassingthorpe	Londonthorpe and
Boothby Pagnell	Harrowby Without
Braceby and Sapperton	Long Bennington
Burton Coggles	Marston
Carlton Scroop	Normanton
Caythorpe	North Witham
Claypole	Old Somerby
Colsterworth	Pickworth
Denton	Ropsley and Humby
Easton	Sedgebrook
Fenton	Skillington
Foston	South Witham
Fulbeck	Stoke Rochford
Great Gonerby	Stubton
Great Ponton	Syston
Gunby and Stainby	Welby
Harlaxton	Westborough and Dry
Heydour	Doddington
Honington	Woolsthorpe
	Wyville-cum-Hungerton

WEST KESTEVEN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Health and Waterworks Committee, 1954.

CHAIRMAN :

Councillor Major H. R. E. E. WELBY, C.M.G., J.P.

VICE-CHAIRMAN :

Councillor J. F. DODDS.

MEMBERS :

Alderman F. J. JENKINSON, J.P., (Ex-officio)

„ J. W. MILNER, J.P. (Ex-officio)

Councillor C. B. BAILEY, J.P.

„ Sir H. J. F. S. CHOLMELEY, Bart., D.S.O.,
D.L., J.P.

Alderman G. A. JENKINSON

Councillor G. C. PORTER

„ H. MARTIN

„ G. NUSSEY

„ R. L. NEWTON

„ Major D. E. DIXON

„ B. SHIPMAN

„ Mrs. F. H. NORMAN

„ A. V. SHEARDOWN

„ W/Cdr. A. E. F. McCREARY

„ T. W. ALLEN

„ J. W. OXBY

„ J. A. DALE

„ Major H. B. TURNOR, M.C., J.P.

„ G. W. SENTANCE

„ R. MERRICK

„ R. H. PACEY

„ Lt. Col. L. WOOD, M.C.

**Housing and Town and Country Planning
Committee, 1954**

CHAIRMAN :

Alderman J. W. MILNER, J.P. ~~(Ex-officio)~~

VICE-CHAIRMAN :

Councillor A. V. SHEARDOWN

MEMBERS :

Alderman	F. J. JENKINSON, J.P. (Ex-officio)
„	G. A. JENKINSON
Councillor	C. B. BAILEY, J.P., (Ex-Officio)
„	Major H. B. TURNOR, M.C., J.P.
„	Major H. R. E. E. WELBY, C.M.G., J.P.
„	H. MARTIN
„	G. NUSSEY
„	Lt. Col. L. WOOD, M.C.
„	J. C. RICKETT
„	Mrs. F. H. NORMAN
„	W/Cdr. A. E. F. McCREARY
„	J. A. DALE
„	R. S. CLARK
„	G. HIGGINS
„	H. D. STONE
„	Sir D. Le MARCHANT
„	F. JENKINSON
„	Mrs. W. H. D. ELNOR
„	R. H. PACEY
„	A. C. SERGEANT
„	G. W. TINKLER
„	J. W. OXBY
„	R. MERRICK
„	B. SHIPMAN
„	Mrs. C. L. JACQUES

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health :

R. M. ROSS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
(Resigned 31/12/54)

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

J. DEAN, F.F.S. (Eng.) Cert. R.San.I.

Sanitary Inspectors :

J. S. SIMMS, M.S.I.A., C.R.San.I.
M. F. JOHNSON, M.S.I.A., C.R.San.I.

Technical Assistant :

G. W. HAYES

Clerks :

J. R. CLARKE
J. I. GORDON
Mrs. D. M. WILKS
Miss M. E. ELDRED

WEST KESTEVEN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

STATISTICAL SUMMARY 1954.

Population (estimated for the year)	18,150
Area	122,406 acres
Rateable value	£73,115
Estimated Product of Penny Rate	£290

				Total	Males	Females
LIVE BIRTHS	...	...	...	293	162	131
STILL BIRTHS	...	...	...	11	8	3
BIRTH RATE	...	...	...	17.0	per 1,000	population
Average for England & Wales				15.2	per 1,000	population
INFANT DEATHS						
Under 1 year	...	...	...	12	7	5
Legitimate	...	...	...	10	6	4
Illegitimate	...	...	...	2	1	1
INFANTILE DEATH RATE			39.0	per 1,000	live births	
Average for England & Wales			25.5	per 1,000	live births	
DEATH RATE						
Crude Death Rate	...	...	9.8	per 1,000	population	
Death Rate						
(corrected for age & sex)			9.8	per 1,000	population	
Average for England & Wales			11.3	per 1,000	population	
				Total	Males	Females
TOTAL DEATHS at all ages	...	...	...	177	104	73

Public Health Department
Council Offices,
19, Watergate,
Grantham.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present on behalf of my predecessor, Dr. R. M. Ross, The Annual Report on the Health, Statistics, and Sanitary Conditions of the West Kesteven Rural District for the year 1954.

The most unsatisfactory feature in the statistics is the high rate of Infantile Mortality. This was higher than in 1953 and far above the national average. A new table has been inserted to show the classification of infant deaths by cause; it will be observed that the largest group of deaths were those attributed to prematurity and the next largest those due to malformation. It is of some interest that the five premature infants who died included two pairs of twins.

The birth rate, though lower than in 1953 was still above the national average.

The number of deaths increased, though the death rate remained below the national average. Analysis shows that the increase was entirely in the group of deaths caused by cardio-vascular disease. As the expectation of life increases, more deaths in this category must be expected. There was in fact a marked decrease in deaths from infective conditions and a slight decrease in deaths from cancer.

The table of infectious diseases shows a marked decrease in whooping cough as compared with 1953 and an extremely low incidence of measles.

Three cases of poliomyelitis were notified, all in children: one case was paralytic, and there were no deaths.

There was an increase in notifications of both pulmonary and non-pulmonary tuberculosis; the most striking rise was in females suffering from pulmonary disease. The number of deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis increased from one to two, but there was no death from the non-pulmonary form of the disease.

During 1954 work was commenced on the development of main water supplies from the Long Bennington borehole. When this work is finished, the scheme for supplying water to the villages of the

northern part of the district will be completed. Sewerage schemes, unfortunately, still lag behind.

I am sure Dr. Ross would wish me to thank all members of the Council, and in particular of the Health Committee, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dean and all his staff for their unfailing courtesy and help throughout the year.

I am, Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

C. W. SHEARER,

Medical Officer of Health.

INFECTION DISEASES

Notifications of Infectious Diseases received during the year were :—

Age Periods	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Measles		Diptheria		Pneumonia		Polio-myelitis		Erysipelas		Paratyphoid Fever		Meningococcal Meningitis	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
under 1 year			3															
1— 2 years	1	1	9	4		1												
3— 4 years	5	3	6	6							1							
5— 9 years	9	9	6	12		1			1	2	1				1			
10—14 years	2	3	1								1					1		
15—24 years	1	1				1			1									
25 and over	1				1				5				1					
Age unknown																		
TOTAL	18	18	25	22	1	3			7	2	3		1		1		1	

TUBERCULOSIS

New cases and Deaths during 1954.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year.								
1— 5 years	1							
5—10 years	1	1						
10—15 years								
15—20 years		2	2	1				
20—25 years		3		1				
25—35 years	1	2						
35—45 years	1	1	1	1				
45—55 years	1					1		
55—65 years	1				1			
65 and upwards			1					
Age unknown	1							
TOTAL	7	9	4	3	1	1		

INFANT DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES

CAUSE OF DEATH	Under 1 Day	1—7 Days	1—4 Weeks	Total Under 4 Wks	1—3 Mths	3—12 Mths	Total Under 1 Year
Premature Birth ..	4		1	5			5
Malformation ..		1	2	3			3
Birth Injuries							
Pneumonia & Bronchitis					1		1
Enteritis & Diarrhoea..							
Other Causes	1		1	2		1	3
TOTAL ..	5	1	4	10	1	1	12

WEST KESTEVEN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
1954

CAUSES OF DEATH					M.	F.	Total
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	1	—	1
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	—	—	—
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	—	1	1
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	—	—	—
6.	Meningo-coccal infections	...	...	...	—	—	—
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—	—
8.	Measles	...	...	...	—	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	—	—	—
10.	Malignant neoplasm stomach	...	...	...	4	2	6
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	3	—	3
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	—	2	2
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	—	—	—
14.	Other malignant & Lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	7	2	9
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	2	—	2
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	—	—	—
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	13	10	23
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	9	4	13
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	6	2	8
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	...	28	26	54
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	6	7	13
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	1	1	2
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	1	2	3
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	2	—	2
25.	Other disease of respiratory system	...	...	...	—	—	—
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	—	—	—
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	—	1	1
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	4	—	4
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	1	—	1
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	—	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	2	2	4
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	10	9	19
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	—	—	—
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	1	2	3
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	3	—	3
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	—	—	—
All causes					104	73	177

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY
INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1954.

Sanitary Inspector and
Surveyor's Department,
Council Offices,
19, Watergate,
Grantham.

To the Chairman and Members of the
West Kesteven Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Report for the year ended 31st December, 1954.

The three main items uppermost in the minds of officials and Committees alike are Housing, Water Supplies and Sewerage, and in particular the cost of providing these much needed amenities.

Twenty years ago, the Council owned 145 houses, at the end of the war 196 and at 31st December, 1954 the number had risen to 700. Unfortunately the cost of building has risen in a similar manner. It is interesting to note that in 1932, the lowest tender received for the erection of 12 houses at Colsterworth was from Messrs. Foster & Son and amounted to £258/16/9d. per house including site works. Of course these houses had not the amenities provided today but they made good homes and still do.

The cost of building and the resultant rent is going to be one of the severest handicaps in rehousing tenants from unfit houses where the tenants cannot or will not pay the much higher rent even though they are being provided with better houses with modern amenities. The transfer of tenants from pre-war to post-war houses must be encouraged and it is also suggested that the Council should consider the purchase of suitable cottage property for modernisation with grant-aid in order to meet the position. This would also assist in the rehousing of certain tenants from the converted war-time buildings which must now be closed.

During the year, the Council made available a small number of building plots for sale for private housing. As building sites become increasingly difficult to obtain, it would be worthwhile to

extend this practice to other villages and so encourage house ownership.

The increase in the number of houses supplied direct from the mains and the decrease in the number supplied from public stand-pipes in the past two years is indicative of the progress which is being made. 741 additional houses are supplied and 214 fewer from stand-pipes. The extension of mains has also been a great asset to agriculture. It is anticipated that within the next three or four years all the villages in the area will have an adequate supply of water and the old shallow well, which often shared the same back yard as the vault closet, can become a garden ornament instead of an implement of torture on wash-days.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal is the back-number, or so it seems. Progress is very slow and no blame can be placed on the Council's shoulders for this. Ministry approval for such schemes is difficult to obtain due to the high cost entailed in a Rural area such as this one. It must suffice to say that such progress as can be made is being made with the labours and finances available.

The return of meat inspection and its almost daily routine has placed another burden on a hard-working Department but one which has almost been welcomed by the Inspectors and accepted generally by the butchers as an improvement on war-time conditions.

I wish to record my thanks to the Clerk of the Council, Mr. Percy R. Cox, now enjoying his retirement, and the Medical Officer of Health, Dr. R. M. Ross, who has now obtained another appointment, and the staff of my Department for their unfailing help throughout the present year.

I am, Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. DEAN,

Chief Sanitary Inspector
and Surveyor.

HOUSING 1954

1.—Dwelling Houses Inspected.

(a) Inspections for Housing Defects	...	...	...	...	252
(b) Dwelling-houses found unfit	...	...	...	...	29
(c) Dwelling-houses found not fit in all respects	...	...	...	...	199
(d) Re-inspections and visits to work in progress	...	...	...	...	96
(e) Re-Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	6
(f) New Buildings (Supervision under Building Byelaws)	...	...	...	...	202
(g) Re Council House Repairs	...	...	...	...	296
(h) Housing Sites, Surveys, Inspections of works in progress	...	...	...	...	309
(i) Temporary Housing	...	...	...	...	52
					<hr/> 1441 <hr/>

2.—Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.

(a) Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority	...	...	...	...	16
(b) Informal Notices served	...	...	...	...	12

3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year.*A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936*

(a) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	...	2
(b) Number of Dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	...	...	...	...	2
(c) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	...	...	1
(d) By owners	...	...	...	...	—

B.—Proceedings under the Public Health Act.

(a) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied after service of formal notice	...	...	...	...	—
(b) Number of Dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	...	...	...	...	—
(c) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	...	...	1
(d) By owners	...	...	...	...	—

C.—Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(a) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	...	24
(b) Number of Dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	...	9

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(a) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	...	7
(b) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms, in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	...	...	...	—

SUMMARY OF OTHER INSPECTIONS

Factories :—

(a) With mechanical power ...	...	...	...	...	...	50
(b) Without mechanical power ...	...	...	...	...	...	44
Slaughter-houses and Knackers Yards ...	...	...	...	...	...	311

Food Preparing Premises :—

(a) Fried Fish Shops ...	...	...	...	...	...	3
(b) Ice Cream Premises ...	...	...	...	...	...	2
(c) Other Premises ...	...	...	...	...	...	33
Cowsheds and Dairies ...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Milk Samples for analysis ...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Stables and Piggeries ...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Petroleum Stores ...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Water Supply ...	...	...	...	...	...	251
Water Samples for analysis ...	...	...	...	...	...	457
Sewer Dykes and Sewage Disposal Works ...	...	...	...	...	...	222
Infectious Disease Inquiries and Disinfections ...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Verminous Premises and Disinfestations ...	...	...	...	...	...	5

Drainage :—

(a) Colour tested ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
(b) Water tested ...	...	...	...	...	...	20
(c) Smoke tested ...	...	...	...	...	...	10
(d) Inspected ...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Scavenging Work ...	...	...	...	...	...	95
Tents, Vans and sheds ...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Camping Sites ...	...	...	...	...	...	—

Special Surveys :—

(a) Water Supply ...	...	...	...	...	...	226
(b) Scavenging ...	...	...	...	...	...	—
(c) Sewage Disposal ...	...	...	...	...	...	226
(d) Rural Housing Survey ...	...	...	...	...	...	226
Town and Country Planning, Inspections ...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Miscellaneous ...	...	...	...	...	...	235

WATER SUPPLY

During the year mainlaying schemes were completed to supply the villages of Foston, Denton and Hough-on-the-Hill and work was started on schemes to supply Woolsthorpe-by-Belvoir, Stroxtun, Little Ponton, Great Ponton, Hougham and Marston and to renew the mains in Skillington.

Consent was received during the year to develop the borehole sunk in 1952 at Long Bennington into the Bunter Sandstone. Work commenced on the laying of the trunk mains and the building of a 500 thousand gallon reservoir at Normanton Heath. The bringing into operation of this new source will enable the remaining villages in the northern part of the area to be supplied and will eliminate the bulk supplies purchased from the North Kesteven Rural District. As this latter supply is limited in quantity, no further development from that source has been possible.

The quality of the new water from the Lenton bore is still unsatisfactory and careful check has to be kept in the super chlorination of this supply and also the Belton and North Witham sources. The chemical treatment of the Belton source was improved during the year. Consent was obtained to sink a second bore at Lenton further to the south-east, in an attempt to find a more satisfactory source and to allow the lining of the first bore to be examined.

It will be noted from the tabulated results of the examination of water samples, that the systematic checking of all supplies is carried out in addition to the daily routine checking for residual chlorine.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EX

		JANUARY					FEBRUARY				MARCH				APRIL				MAY			
		2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	1	8	15	22
Borehole LENTON	Coli-aegns count p 100 mls at 37°C in 48 hrs.		90	180 +	35	90	25	14	180 +	35	25	50	25	20	17	50	35	11	13	50	160	35
	Faecal coli count p 100 mls at 44°C in 48 hrs.		5	90	13	5	8	1	50	5	8	20	13	20	3	11	5	3	1	11	50	5
Spring MOTHERFORD	Coli-aegns count p 100 mls at 37°C in 48 hrs.		7	0	5	0	35	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	13
	Faecal coli count p 100 mls at 44°C in 48 hrs.		5	0	1	0	0	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13
Borehole OLD SOMERBY	Coli-aegns count p 100 mls at 37°C in 48 hrs.		0	0	0	0	0	0	2		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Faecal coli count p 100 mls at 44°C in 48 hrs.		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Spring BELTON	Coli-aegns count p 100 mls at 37°C in 48 hrs.				3			8			0				0				0	160		
	Faecal coli count p 100 mls at 44°C in 48 hrs.				0			1			0				0				0	160		
Spring FOXHOLE	Coli-aegns count p 100 mls at 37°C in 48 hrs.		0								0				0	0			0		0	
	Faecal coli count p 100 mls at 44°C in 48 hrs.		0								0				0	0			0		0	
Spring SKILLINGTON	Coli-aegns count p 100 mls at 37°C in 48 hrs.				1				1							8					0	20
	Faecal coli count p 100 mls at 44°C in 48 hrs.				1				1							8					0	20

ATIONS—(i) RAW WATERS

JUNE			JULY					AUGUST				SEPTEMBER				OCTOBER					NOVEMBER				DECEMBER			
2	19	26	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25
0	180 +	180 +	180 +	180 +	160	180 +	180 +	90	180 +	180 +	180 +	160	180 +	180 +	90	50	50	180 +	180 +	180 +	50	180 +	180 +	25	90	50	90	50
0	180 +	180 +	90	180 +	160	160	35	50	180 +	35	180 +	90	50	180 +	35	35	8	90	160	180 +	17	90	180 +	8	50	35	35	7
	50	3	3	90	17	1	3	0	11	90	0	180 +	5	3	3	0	5	1	17	5	2	8	35	35	8	11	1	3
	14	3	1	35	7	1	3	0	11	90	0	180 +	5	3	0	0	5	1	7	1	1	1	3	7	1	1	1	1
	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	5	50	35	180 +	35	90	90	35	180 +	11	50	50	25	3	180 +	50	13	3	25	160	160	35	18	13	5	1	0	5
0	1	3	5	180 +	17	35	90	35	180 +	5	11	8	2	1	180 +	35	2	3	8	90	35	3	8	8	1	0	0	0
0	25		3	5	5	1		0	0	180 +	50	35	25	1	180 +	5	35	0	180 +	5	50	20	35	5	3	2	2	
0	25		3	5	5	1		0	0	160	50	11	8	1	8	0	1	0	50	5	17			1	0	0	0	

CONSUMPTION OF WATER — ALL SOURCES Figures given in thousand gallons

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL
Lenton	1876	1514	1542	1497	1858	1479	1618	1700	1485	1929	1536	1531	19565
North Witham	1355	1248	1070	1055	1324	1064	1250	1151	1127	1381	1141	1073	14239
Old Somerby	119	107	104	101	127	80	100	105	98	160	94	99	1294
Belton	317	317	303	378	532	699	750	853	1215	1228	844	963	8399
TOTALS	3667	3186	3019	3031	3841	3322	3718	3809	3925	4698	3615	3666	43,497
Grantham W. W. ..	3787	3788	3788	3333	3333	3334	3394	3394	3394	3946	3946	3947	43,384
Newark Borough ..	754	754	754	788	788	789	649	649	650	506	507	507	8096
North Kesteven R.D.C.	1000	1000	1000	1061	1062	1062	1000	1000	1000	1004	1004	1005	12,197
TOTALS	5541	5542	5542	5182	5183	5185	5043	5043	5044	5456	5457	5459	63,677
Total Water Supply Available in West Kesteven	9,208	8,728	8,561	8,213	9,024	8,507	8,761	8,852	8,969	10,154	9,072	9,125	107,174
Melton & Belvoir R.D.C.	622	621	621	727	727	727	727	728	728	728	728	728	8412
South Kesteven R.D.C.	200	100	50	22	22	22	22	22	22	21	21	21	545
Total Water Used in West Kesteven	8386	8007	7890	7464	8275	7758	8012	8102	8219	9405	8323	8376	98,217

Bacteriological Examinations**(ii) Treated Waters**

Source of Supply	Place of Sampling	Category			
		1	2	3	4
Belton	Barkston	26	—	1	3
Lenton	Bitchfield	1	—	1	—
	Braceby	3	—	—	1
	Sapperton	9	—	—	1
	Burton Coggles	11	1	1	2
	Ingoldsby	18	—	2	1
	Lenton	11	—	—	—
	Pickworth	11	—	—	—
	Ropsley	51	2	—	1
North Witham	Colsterworth	50	1	—	—
	North Witham	2	1	—	—
	South Witham	3	—	—	—
	Gunby & Stainby	2	—	—	—
Old Somerby	Old Somerby	36	3	—	1
Skillington		19	2	3	—
		253	10	8	10

Details of the number of Dwelling-houses supplied from the public water mains (a) direct to houses, and (b) by means of stand-pipes, are as follows :—

						DIRECT	STANDPIPE
Allington	...	...	...	...	...	99	—
Ancaster	...	...	...	...	...	74	78
Barkston	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Barrowby	...	...	...	...	...	150	40
Belton and Manthorpe			...	...	...	—	—
Bitchfield and Bassingthorpe				...	...	39	—
Boothby Pagnell	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Braceby and Sapperton			...	...	...	20	—
Burton Coggles		...	...	...	...	42	—
Carlton Scroop		...	...	...	...	—	—
Caythorpe	...	...	...	...	...	244	—
Claypole	...	...	...	...	...	206	—
Colsterworth	...	...	...	...	...	264	28
Denton	...	...	...	...	...	42	—
Easton	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Fenton	...	...	...	...	...	20	—
Foston	...	...	...	...	...	102	—
Fulbeck	...	...	...	...	...	173	—
Great Gonerby		...	...	...	...	260	—
Great Ponton	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Gunby and Stainby	...	...	...	...	...	54	—
Harlaxton	...	...	...	...	...	160	—
Heydour	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Honington	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Hougham	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Hough-on-the-Hill		...	...	...	...	57	—
Ingoldsby	...	...	...	...	...	65	—
Lenton, Keisby and Osgodby			...	...	...	103	—
Little Ponton and Stroxton	...	...	...	...	...	3	—
Londonthorpe and Harrowby Without				...	...	—	—
Long Bennington		...	...	...	...	285	—
Marston	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Normanton	...	...	...	...	...	9	—
North Witham		...	...	...	...	43	—
Old Somerby	...	...	...	...	...	53	—
Pickworth	...	...	...	...	...	31	—
Ropsley and Humby	...	...	...	...	...	166	—
Skillington	...	...	...	...	...	23	51
South Witham	...	...	...	...	...	133	—
Stoke Rochford		...	...	...	...	—	—
Stubton	...	...	...	...	...	40	—
Syston	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Welby	...	...	...	...	...	7	70
Westborough and Dry Doddington				...	...	91	—
Woolsthorpe	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Wyville-cum-Hungerton		...	...	...	...	6	—
				Totals		3065	267

HOUSING

The rate of completing new houses was maintained during the year, 93 additional houses being occupied as against 109 during 1953 and 57 in 1952. The inclusion of new traditional housing in the programme during the past two years has assisted in achieving this result.

The first Aged-Persons Bungalows to be completed in the district were officially opened at Great Gonerby. These well equipped houses were found to be so much in demand that, although ten were originally planned, a demand for a further ten had to be considered. The scheme for providing for this type of housing throughout the area is now going ahead as it is being found that the "Additional Earner" Scheme which was adopted, will allow further bungalows to be let at an inclusive rent and rate figure of ten shillings per week.

In addition to providing satisfactory homes for Aged-Persons far superior and less costly than communal accommodation, it has helped in releasing under-occupied houses for larger families.

Attempt is being made to deal with the unfit housing methodically, by taking action in each village as new houses are being built. It is only in this way that the Council can prevent these houses being re-occupied and consequently their existence in an unfit state perpetuated.

Applications for Improvement Grants are now on the increase and it is pleasing to note that the Council are alive to the fact that the modernisation of a suitable house with grant-aid is less costly than the building of a new house. No matter what type of house is designed and built by the Council it does not fit into a village as well as the old cottage and if the character of the village can be maintained by retaining the old houses with a new interior it should be encouraged. The most prevalent nuisance to country dwellers has been said to be dampness and this is unfortunately expensive to remedy as the dampness is caused through the absence of damp-proof courses, floors below ground level, porous bricks and stonework and so on.

SUMMARY OF HOUSING SURVEY

Cate- gory		Number Cate- gorised	Percentage of Total Surveyed
1.	Houses satisfactory in all respects	284	10.7
2.	Houses with minor defects ...	74	2.8
3.	Houses requiring repair, structural alterations or improvements ...	1796	67.4
4.	Houses for appropriate recondit- ioning	238	7.8
5.	Houses unfit for habitation and beyond repair at a reasonable expense	271	10.2

APPLICATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

(a)	Considered by the Rural District Council					
	Received	...	...	...	...	30
	Approved	...	...	...	...	27
	Rejected	...	...	...	...	1
	Under consideration	...	...	...	...	2
(b)	Submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government					
	Number submitted	...	...	...	...	5
	Number approved	...	...	...	...	5
	Number rejected	...	...	...	...	Nil
	Number under consideration	...	...	...	...	Nil

ADDITIONAL HOUSES PROVIDED

Parish	Type	Number
Allington		8
Denton		8
Foston		4
Great Gonerby	P.H.2 Traditional	14
	Unity A.P. Bungalows	4
	Unity	2
Long Bennington	„	6
Ropsley	„	4
South Witham	Orlit. Houses and	
	Bungalows	37
Stubton		4
Dry Doddington... ..		8

At the 31st December, 1954, the Council owned 700 houses as follows :—

Parish	No. of Houses
Allington	8
Ancaster	56
Barkston	14
Barrowby	32
Belton and Manthorpe	—
Bitchfield and Bassingthorpe	6
Boothby Pagnell	—
Braceby and Sapperton	2
Burton Coggles	8
Carlton Scroop	16
Caythorpe	51
Claypole	42
Colsterworth	60
Denton	8
Fenton	—
Foston	4
Fulbeck	20
Great Gonerby	78
Great Ponton	10
Gunby and Stainby	4
Harlaxton	6
Heydour	2
Honington	—
Hougham	2
Hough-on-the-Hill	21
Ingoldsby	16
Lenton, Keisby and Osgodby	6
Little Ponton and Stroxtan... ..	1
Long Bennington	32
Marston	12
Normanton	4
North Witham	4
Old Somerby	24
Pickworth	4
Ropsley and Humby	30
Sedgebrook	4
Skillington... ..	8
South Witham	57
Stubton	8
Welby	4
Westborough and Dry Doddington	18
Woolsthorpe-by-Belvoir	18
Total	<hr/> 700 <hr/>

NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS ON THE HOUSING REGISTER

Parish					Living or Working in Rural District	Living and Working out- side Rural District	TOTAL
Allington	...	...	...	...	3	1	4
Ancaster	...	...	...	...	21	5	26
Barkston	...	...	...	...	12	2	14
Barrowby	...	...	...	...	15	9	24
Belton and Manthorpe	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
Bitchfield and Bassingthorpe	...	...	...	...	5	1	6
Boothby Pagnell	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Braceby and Sapperton	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Burton Coggles	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Carlton Scroop	...	...	...	...	3	—	3
Caythorpe	...	...	...	...	15	—	15
Claypole	...	...	...	...	11	1	12
Colsterworth	...	...	...	...	62	4	66
Denton	...	...	...	...	10	—	10
Fenton	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Foston ...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Fulbeck	...	...	...	...	7	1	8
Great Gonerby	...	...	...	...	79	62	141
Great Ponton ...	...	...	...	...	14	3	17
Gunby and Stainby	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
Harlaxton	...	...	...	...	8	4	12
Heydour	...	...	...	...	3	—	3
Honington	...	...	...	...	3	1	4
Hougham	...	...	...	...	4	—	4
Hough-on-the-Hill	...	...	...	...	4	1	5
Ingoldsby	...	...	...	...	3	1	4
Lenton, Keisby and Osgodby	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Little Ponton and Stroxton	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
Long Bennington	...	...	...	...	37	6	43
Marston	...	...	...	...	4	—	4
Normanton	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
North Witham	...	...	...	...	3	—	3
Old Somerby	...	...	...	...	138	9	147
Pickworth	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Ropsley and Humby	...	...	...	...	4	2	6
Sedgebrook	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
Skillington	...	...	...	...	5	—	5
South Witham	...	...	...	...	10	10	20
Stubton	...	...	...	...	6	—	6
Welby ...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Westborough and Dry Doddington	...	...	...	...	6	—	6
Woolsthorpe by Belvoir	...	...	...	...	17	1	18
Total					524	126	650

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

During the year the Skillington Sewerage and disposal works were completed. This will eliminate the discharge of untreated sewage into the Cringle Brook which is one of the sources of the Grantham Water Company's supply.

Approval was obtained and work started on the provision of sewerage and disposal plants, primarily to provide for additional housing, in Colsterworth and Great Gonerby. The schemes were so designed as to permit of extensions at a later date when consent was forthcoming to completely sewer each village.

Schemes were also prepared for Ropsley, South Witham, Great Ponton, Caythorpe, Barkston, Harlaxton, and Claypole. In the case of Claypole it was decided to purchase a surplus Air Ministry Disposal Plant at R.A.F. Station Balderton which was sited within reasonable distance of the village.

In addition to these schemes, it is suggested that early consideration should be given to completing the sewerage in the village of Allington, where for some unknown reason consent was only obtained for part of the village.

The other villages which should soon be considered are Ancaster and Long Bennington.

MEAT AND FOODS

On the 1st July 1954, six private slaughter-houses were again licensed after they had brought up to the required standard. The slaughter-houses were selected in consultation with the farmers and butchers so as to serve the whole of the area as far as possible. The butchers agreed to the joint use of these facilities or to make use of the local authority controlled slaughter-houses in Sleaford or Grantham.

In 1934, the Annual Report recorded 34 slaughter-houses in use and it is worthwhile repeating a section of that report which reads "These are inspected, together with any carcasses of meat, as and when possible. It is impossible to adequately inspect all carcasses in this scattered district". These conditions should not be allowed to return as it is essential that all animals slaughtered for human consumption are inspected. Unless centralised slaughtering remains and the slaughter-houses kept to the present number it will not be possible.

Since the 1st July, 1954, the number of post-mortem examinations carried out are as follows:

Oxen 132

Sheep 540

Pigs 127

As a result of these examinations 1356 lbs. of diseased or unsound meat have been surrendered by the butchers.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Refuse continues to be collected once every three weeks. This appears to be reasonably adequate but as the cost of collection was reduced by providing a "kerbside" collection only, a collection every three weeks does at times confuse the householder. A fortnightly collection would avoid this, although it is not considered to be possible whilst weekly collections have to be made from the Borough of Grantham's temporary housing estate in the Parish of Londonthorpe and Harrowby Without.

RESULTS OF BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILKS

Parish	Number of Samples	Result		
		Positive	Negative	Not determined
Barkston	1	—	1	—
Belton & Manthorpe ..	4	—	4	—
Colsterworth	7	—	7	—
Denton	2	—	2	—
Harlaxton	2	—	2	—
Hougham	1	—	1	—
Ingoldsby	1	—	1	—
Marston	2	—	2	—
Old Somerby	1	—	1	—
Ropsley & Humby ..	1	—	1	—
South Witham	3	—	3	—
Syston	1	—	1	—
Woolsthorpe-by-Belvoir ..	5	—	5	—
Totals ..	31	—	31	—

The following premises are registered for the manufacture, sale and storage of ice cream :—

Parish			Manufacture	Sale & Storage
Ancaster	...	...	—	5
Barkston	...	...	—	1
Barrowby	...	...	—	1
Burton Coggles	...	...	—	1
Caythorpe	...	...	—	3
Claypole	...	...	—	2
Colsterworth	...	...	—	1
Denton	...	...	—	1
Foston	...	...	—	3
Fulbeck	...	...	1	4
Great Gonerby	...	...	—	2
Ingoldsby	...	...	—	1
Harlaxton	...	...	—	1
Heydour	...	...	—	1
Hough-on-the-Hill	...	...	—	1
Londonthorpe & Harrowby			—	3
Long Bennington	...	...	—	4
Old Somerby	...	...	—	1
Ropsley	...	...	—	2
Skillington	...	...	—	3
South Witham	...	...	—	2
Stoke Rochford	...	...	—	1
Woolsthorpe-by-Belvoir			—	2

In every case where the registration is one of sale and storage only, the ice cream is pre-packed and purchased from a large manufacturer outside the area.

Reports upon ice cream samples submitted to the Ministry of Health Laboratory were all found to be satisfactory.

RAT AND MICE DESTRUCTION

The full-time rat catcher has again been working in close co-operation with the Kesteven Agricultural Committee and this has resulted in better control being exercised and immediate attention given to reported infestations.

		Type of Property				
		Local Auth- ority	Dwell- ing Houses	Agricul- tural	All other (includ'g Business & Indus- trial)	TOTAL
I.	Total number of prop- erties in the District ...	18	5373	476	73	5940
II.	Number of Inspections during 1952 :—					
	(a) notification ...	141	265	58	42	506
	(b) otherwise ...	589	1117	232	168	2106
III.	Number of properties infested by rats :—					
	Major	90	137	28	254	5
	Minor	210	322	67	600	11
IV.	Number of properties found to be seriously infested by mice ...	—	—	—	—	—
V.	Number of infested properties treated ...	300	459	16	95	870
VI.	Number of Notices served under Section 4.					
	(1) Treatment... ..	—	—	—	—	—
	(2) Structural Works (i.e. Proofing) ...	—	—	—	—	—
	Total ...	—	—	—	—	—
VII.	Number of cases in which default action was taken by L. Authy.	—	—	—	—	—
VIII.	Legal Proceedings ...	—	—	1	—	1
IX.	Number of “ block ” control schemes ...	—	50	—	—	50

BUILDING INSPECTIONS.

The following plans were deposited for approval during the year.

Dwelling-houses — new ...	...	...	...	...	36
„ „ alterations to	...	...	...	...	42
Farm buildings — new ...	...	...	...	...	1
„ „ alterations to	...	...	...	...	—
Factories — new ...	...	...	...	...	1
„ alterations to	...	...	...	...	—
Other buildings — new ...	...	...	...	...	11
„ „ alterations to	...	...	...	...	10

PETROLEUM AND CARBIDE OF CALCIUM LICENCES

Number in force (Petroleum)	...	...	...	...	...	90
Number in force (Carbide)	...	...	...	...	...	4
New licences (Petroleum) ...	...	...	...	...	...	6
New licences (Carbide) ...	...	...	...	...	...	1

FACTORIES ACT 1937

1. INSPECTIONS

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspect- ions	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authorities	21	4	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the local Authority	63	46	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding out-workers premises)	—	44	—	—
	84	94	—	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found		Number of cases in which		
	Found	Re- medied	Referred to H.M. by Ins- pector	Referred by H.M. Ins- pector	prosecut- ions were institut'd
Want of Cleanliness	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences—					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—

